

1956



THE RURAL DISTRICT

- OF -

ST. AUSTELL

ANNUAL

REPORT

- OF THE -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Councillors of the
Rural District of St. Austell.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the
Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District for the year 1956.

The vital records are again satisfactory.

I am indebted to Mr. Townsend, the Council's Engineer,
and to Mr. Lawless, the Chief Public Health Inspector for considerable
portions of this report and to them and to other Council Officers, I
wish to express my thanks.

It is a pleasure to record thanks to the Chairman and
Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued interest
and support.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES TURNER.

SECTION A.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area :	82,389 acres
Population (Mid year 1956) (Estimated)	21,660
Number of inhabited houses	6,682
Rateable Value	£ 143,934
Product of penny rate	£581

As elsewhere in Cornwall, there is a marked seasonal rise in population during the holiday period. The main occupations are clayworking and agriculture. The latter is of course a healthy occupation and so also is the former, except where china stone is quarried.

The District extends across the breadth of the County and has a northern and southern seaboard. As a result, there are two types of climate - the northern, more bracing with slightly more sunshine and a slightly lower temperature than the southern, which is mild with prevailing S.W. winds. The mean annual temperature is about 51°F.

Rainfall. The rainfall for 1956 as recorded at the Hendra Pumping Station in St. Stephen-in-Brannel parish was 42.84 inches. Rainfall exceeding 0.01 inches was recorded in 202 days. The highest daily fall occurred on Christman Day amounting to 1.58 inches, but there was a fall of 1.46 inches on 28th July. December was the wettest month with 8.64 inches whilst February was driest with 0.97 inches. This, of course, corresponded with the prolonged cold spell.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate/1,000 Population</u> <u>Rural Dist. England & Wales.</u>
Legitimate	149	150	320	14.78.
Illegitimate	12	9		

For comparison with other areas rate corrected for age and sex distribution

15.5 15.7

<u>Still Births</u>				<u>Rate/1,000 Total Live & Still</u> <u>Births</u>
Legitimate	2	2	4	12.3 23.0
Illegitimate	-	-		

<u>Deaths</u>				<u>Rate/1,000 Population</u>
	122	125	247	11.4

For comparison with other areas rate corrected for age and sex distribution

11.2 11.7

<u>Maternal Mortality</u>				<u>Rate/1,000 Total Births</u>
	-	-	2	6.2 0.56

<u>Infant Mortality</u> (Deaths under 1 yr of age)				<u>Rate/1,000 Live Births</u>
Legitimate	4	7	11	34.4 23.8
Illegitimate	-	-		

The following table gives the causes of infant deaths :-

Cause	Age in weeks					Total
	Under 1 week	2	3	4	5 weeks 12 months	
Premature	5	-	-	-	-	5
Asphyxia	2	-	-	-	-	2
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	-	1
Trauma	1	-	-	-	-	1
Broncho Pneumonia		1	-	-	-	1
Haemorrhagic Disease	1	-	-	-	-	1
	10	1	-	-	-	11

There has been a considerable rise in the infant mortality mainly due to deaths within the first few days of life. The five year average since 1952 compares favourably with that for the United Kingdom.

The loss of life due to prematurity and still births is very considerable and with increasing knowledge should be prevented.

The following is an abbreviated list of the causes of death of persons of all ages:-

	M.	F.
1) Tub: of resp: sys:	1	-
2) Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3) Syphilitic disease	1	1
4) Diphtheria	-	-
5) Whooping Cough	-	-
6) Meningococcal infections	-	-
7) Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8) Measles	-	-
9) Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1
10) Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	4
11) Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-
12) Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3
13) Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3
14) Other malig. & lymphatic neoplasms	10	9
15) Leukæmia, aleukæmia	-	1
16) Diabetes	-	-
17) Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	14
18) Coronary disease, angina	23	11
19) Hypertension with heart disease	2	5
20) Other heart disease	32	27
21) Other circulatory disease	-	6
22) Influenza	3	2
23) Pneumonia	4	2
24) Bronchitis	1	3
25) Other diseases of respiratory system	-	3
26) Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1
27) Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28) Nephritis and nephrosis	3	1
29) Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
30) Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	2
31) Congenital malformations	-	1
32) Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	20
33) Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
34) All other accidents	4	3
35) Suicide	3	1
36) Homicide and operations of war	-	1
All causes :	122	125

Malignant disease caused 13.7% of all deaths, motor vehicles and other accidents 3.2%. Since 1950 thirteen male and two female deaths have been recorded as due to cancer of the lung or bronchus. In the adjacent urban area with a similar population more than twice as many deaths occurred during the same period. The high proportion of about 6 males to 1 female was the same in both areas and corresponds to the national figures.

There is overwhelming statistical evidence associating cigarette smoking habits with this disease but there would appear to be in addition some urban factor.

The following short table gives the percentage distribution of ages at death.

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Males %</u>	<u>Females %</u>
0 - 1	3.3	5.7
1 - 59	19.5	16.4
60 - 69	22.8	18.0
70 - 79	29.3	27.9
80 - 89	22.8	28.7
90 +	2.4	3.3

SECTION B.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

(a) Medical Officer of Health

J.G.S.Turner, M.B.,D.P.H.

(b) Under the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act, 1956, the designation Sanitary Inspector has now been changed to Public Health Inspector.

Public Health Inspectors :

H. G. Lawless, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Food Inspector's Certificate.

T. J. Down, M.R.San.I.

Laboratory Facilities

These are available at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, where all material for investigation is sent.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis and Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

In addition to supplies of diphtheria prophylactic previously available, supplies of Whooping Cough vaccine and of tetanus antigen in varying combinations are now available at the Health Area Office and can be obtained by Medical Practitioners on request.

Very limited supplies of a vaccine against Poliomyelitis have been issued to Local Authorities for use by the Medical Officer of Health. It is proposed later to ask general practitioners to participate in the scheme.

Ambulance Facilities

There are provided from the main centres at St. Austell and Newquay and in addition from country centres at Indian Queens, Fowey and St. Blazey. The work carried out from the above centres during the year is shown in the following table. About one-third of the patients carried belonged to the Rural District.

		<u>Patients</u>	<u>Miles</u>
(a) <u>Ambulance</u>	St. Austell and Newquay	3,041	46,481
(b) <u>Utilicons</u>	St. Austell and Newquay	10,915	93,117
(c) <u>Hospital</u> <u>Car Service</u>	St. Austell and Newquay	6,625	70,970
(d) <u>Country Centre</u> <u>Ambulances</u>	Indian Queens, Fowey and St. Blazey.	789	27,604

Thanks are due to the voluntary organisations who helped, to Mrs. Batchelor and Miss Boldock, Organisers of the Hospital Car Service, and to many ladies and gentlemen who provided transport on request.

Nursing Services

The establishment of nurses who carry out domiciliary services is as follows :-

District Nurse - Midwife - Health Visitor	11
Whole-time Health Visitor.	1

The services provided have worked smoothly

Domiciliary Midwifery

All nurses are now trained in the use of gas/air anaesthesia and this is available to all patients. About 60% of women have their babies at home.

Ante-Natal Care

There are no ante-natal clinics in the rural area and all pregnant women are referred either to St. Austell or to Newquay.

Infant Welfare

The centre at Roche has continued to be very successful with an average attendance of 12.0. The centre at Indian Queens has averaged 20.2 and the centre at St. Dennis 20.1 and the new centre at Summercourt 18.5.

The success of these centres is partly due to the help by voluntary workers for whom there is still great opportunity for service to the community

The infant welfare centres provide a most convenient place for immunisation.

Care and After Care

Young children on discharge from hospital are followed up by the District Nurses.

Domestic Help Service.

This service has worked well, but difficulty has been experienced during the summer months in obtaining spare-time helps. At the end of the year the establishment was increased to the equivalent of seven full-time helps.

Thanks are due to Miss Stokes and to the ladies who assist her in organising this Service. A total of 44 persons, of whom 6 were maternity cases, were given help.

Hospitals

There is no hospital in the district and cases are sent to Newquay, Fowey and St. Austell District Hospitals, to the R.C.I., at Truro for special investigation and treatment, to Redruth in the case of maternity and to the Isolation Hospital at Truro in the case of infectious diseases.

Clinics

The following clinics are held at the places and date indicated :-

Child Welfare { (St. Austell - Moorland Road - 1st and 3rd Wednesday.
 (Newquay - Ambulance Hall - weekly - Thursday.
 (Par - Gott Hall - 2nd and 4th Tuesday.
 (Roche - Church Hall - 1st and 4th Tuesday.
 (Indian Queens - Ambulance Hall - 3rd Wednesday.
 (St. Dennis - Methodist Sunday School - 4th Thursday.
 (Summercourt - Memorial Hall - 2nd Wednesday.

Ante-Natal { (St. Austell - Moorland Road - weekly - Monday forenoon.
 (Newquay - Hospital - weekly - Monday afternoon.

Orthopaedic { (St. Austell - Moorland Road - Tuesday forenoon.
 (Newquay - Hospital - weekly - Monday.

Tuberculosis { (St. Austell - Hospital - weekly - Monday.
 (Newquay - Hospital - 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday.

Percutaneous { (St. Austell - 1st Monday and last Tuesday (afternoon)
 (Newquay - 3rd Tuesday (afternoon)

Dental { (St. Austell - Moorland Road - every day.
 (Newquay - Berry Road - thrice weekly.

Ophthalmic { (St. Austell - Aylmer Place - 2nd and 4th Wednesday.
 (Newquay - Hospital - by arrangement.

E.N.T. { (St. Austell - Moorland Road - by arrangement.
 (Newquay - Hospital - by arrangement.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Conditions

(1) Water (i) New Schemes

(a) Bears Down Water Supply Scheme

The year has been taken up in negotiation with Wadebridge R.D.C. on their terms for a supply of water in bulk.

The scheme has been approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government subject to a satisfactory outcome of the negotiations with Wadebridge R.D.C. and all necessary documents are prepared ready to go to tender at the earliest opportunity.

(b) Fowey River Joint Water Scheme

The scheme incorporating the agreed works in respect of the four participating Authorities, namely the Boroughs of Fowey and Lostwithiel, the St. Austell U.D.C. and this Council, was completed by the Consulting Engineers and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in the Spring. Work on the preparation of an Order under Section 23 of the Water Act, 1945, is in hand together with an Agreement as between the participants.

(ii) Existing Schemes

(a) Analysis

During the year a total of 196 samples of water from public supplies were submitted for bacteriological analysis with the following results :-

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Total</u>
Treated Water	61	Nil	61
Untreated Water	94	4	98
	24	13	37
	-----	-----	-----
	179	17	196
	=====	=====	=====

(b) Availability of Supplies

Early in the year, when rainfall was much below average, grave doubts arose as to whether supplies would be maintained throughout the Summer. However, the monthly rainfall from June onwards was sufficient to enable all but one of the sources to keep pace with the demand.

At Trewoon mechanical trouble with the deep well pump brought about substantially by the prolonged pumping from low levels and the stirring of sediments caused much anxiety in May. In June the well output failed to meet the demand and the supply had to be supplemented from Halviggan pit. This was done by the emergency laying of $\frac{3}{4}$ mile 3" spun iron pipe from pit to reservoir and the purchase of a suitable mobile pump.

(c) Mains relaying

The old, inadequate main serving parts of Gothers, St. Dennis, was reinforced during the year by laying 330 yards 3" spun iron main from the reservoir to the higher part of Gothers. This brought a satisfactory supply to an area from which there had been many complaints for a number of years.

(d) Private Water Supplies

Out of a total of 20 water samples taken from private supplies in the district, the following results have been obtained :-

Satisfactory	7
Reasonable Safe	8
Unfit for drinking purposes	5

In all cases of unsatisfactory results, the owners have either found the source of contamination and remedied it or have installed Berkfield Filters.

(2) Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

(a) Trewoon and Polgooth Sewerage Scheme.

The Government's instruction to curb capital expenditure again delayed authorisation of the scheme even after a tender had been recommended for acceptance. A deputation went to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and were successful in presenting a case for an immediate start on the scheme. Accordingly work started on the construction of sewers in the Trewoon area in November. The contract period for the whole scheme is 2 years and the Contractor is Messrs. E. Thomas & Co., of Falmouth.

(b) Grampound Sewerage Scheme

In July 1956 the Ministry gave approval in principal to this scheme, but due to the need to restrict capital expenditure, would not authorise loan sanction. The scheme can, however, be put in hand immediately these restrictions are eased.

(c) Fraddon Sewerage Scheme

A scheme for the sewerage of Fraddon, Blue Anchor and Penhale with a sewage disposal works at Penhale was approved by the Council, the County Council, Cornwall River Board and the Area Planning Committee during the year. It was submitted for Ministry consideration in November.

(d) St. Dennis Sewage Disposal Works - Reconstruction

This scheme, which was submitted to the Ministry in April 1955, is held up pending the settlement of certain difficulties which have arisen in connection with land purchase.

(e) Roche Sewage Disposal Works - Reconstruction

The design of this essential work was put in hand during the course of the year.

(f) St. Stephen Sewerage - Reconstruction

A scheme is in preparation which includes the abandonment of the old works at Terras and pumping the sewage to a completely new disposal works at Gwindra, where the total flow will be treated.

(g) Existing Sewage Disposal Works

In general, the works continue to produce unsatisfactory effluents. As the major improvement schemes are delayed, it has been necessary to carry out renewal of certain fittings, including some of the distributors. Although these will be abandoned when the works are reconstructed, the expenditure has been necessary to keep the works functioning.

(h) Cesspool Emptying

The work of the vehicle during the year has included the following :-

276 emptyings of privately owned cesspools

132 " " council house "

45 " " Lane Slaughterhouse cesspool

61 " " cesspools outside the Rural District.

(i) Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Certain investigations have been carried out during the year to ascertain the extent of a very old private drainage system which is in existence in the village of Roche and which owing to certain defects in its length is causing nuisance in the fields of a nearby farmer. It was found that the system took the drainage from 4 domestic properties and a slaughterhouse, together with the surface water of 3 road gullies. A scheme has now been formulated to connect the house and slaughterhouse drainage directly to the main sewer and this work is being commenced early next year.

Again in the village of Roche complaints were made that foul smells were emanating from the road surface water gullies. Tests were carried out and it was established that the drainage from a large guest house was connected to the surface water drainage system. The owner is now taking the necessary steps to reconnect the whole of his private system to the foul sewer so that the nuisance may be abated.

(3) Disinfections and Disinfestations

Terminal disinfections are rarely asked for these days, but when requested are always carried out in order to give the people requiring them a degree of satisfaction. During the year there have been 3 disinfections after cases of T.B. and 2 disinfestations where tenants have moved into flea ridden houses.

(4) Rodent Control

The Council employs one operator to carry out rodent control duties in the district. He is supplied with a 10 cwt van to enable him to cover the rather large district.

Summary of Work 1956

	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Business</u>	<u>Agriculture</u>
No. of Properties inspected for rat infestation	2194	364	426
No. of Properties found to be infested	1086	207	170
No. of Properties treated for minor infestation	1057	26	-
" " " " " major "	11	-	1

The Cornwall Agricultural Executive Committee carry out treatments in respect of farm premises.

(5) Nuisances

A number of small nuisances of varying character have been dealt with informally and abatement has been procured without having to report details to the Council.

(6) Beaches

The beach owned by this Council on the North coast has not yet been provided with Public Conveniences but it is hoped to build some during the next year. Notice Boards have been placed at all entrances to the effect that bathing is dangerous at certain times. Life buoys and life saving equipment have been placed at strategic positions over the beach.

The privately owned beach on the South coast has now been provided with a satisfactory block of conveniences.

(7) Refuse Collection and Public Cleansing.

The major portion of the District is served by a weekly collection carried out by three refuse vehicles. The more remote scattered houses have a fortnightly collection. After some delay a new Thornycroft diesel engined carrier arrived in July and replaced our oldest vehicle. During its period of use over the last 5 months of the year it has proved to have effected a great economy of fuel.

There are now two refuse tips in existence, one in a very remote area serves the most Northern part of the district and another near the village of Sticker takes refuse from the Southern area. One attendant is employed full time on this latter refuse tip and every precaution is taken to ensure that no nuisance occurs.

(8) Public Conveniences.

The proposal to build two more conveniences in addition to the seven already existing has not yet materialised but there is every possibility that they will be built during the coming year.

(9) Caravan Sites

There are no further additions to the licenced caravan sites already in existence in the district. These 5 sites continue to be kept in an orderly and satisfactory condition.

(10) Petroleum Regulations

After considerable pressure by the Senior Public Health Inspector who is also the Petroleum Officer, all owners of Petrol Filling Stations have now fixed notices prohibiting smoking and requiring engines to be switched off when petrol is being served. This is to comply with the conditions of the licence.

An interesting prosecution was proceeded with under Section 6 of Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928. On a report from a Police Road Patrol that the driver of a bulk petrol tanker was found smoking and in possession of matches whilst driving his vehicle. The Council decided to prosecute and the driver was fined a total of £3. 0. 0d.

(11) National Assistance Act, 1946.

Three applications were received for assistance to bury near relatives who were destitute. It was recommended that payment be made in respect of the funeral expenses of two of the applications but that payment be not made in the third case as sufficient Insurance benefits were received to cover the funeral expenses.

(12) River Pollution

A rather bad case of sewage pollution came under notice and the facts were reported to the Officer of the Cornwall River Board.

SECTION D.

Housing

Housing Application Current - Dec. 1956.

Total No. live applications	171
No. of families without separate houses	55
No. of " in unfit houses	37
No. of " " overcrowded conditions	19
No. of unmarried persons applying	6
No. of persons requiring houses for other reasons	54

Type of Houses needed by applicants

1 Bedroom	--
2 "	83
3 "	68
4 "	6
Unclassified	14

Private Enterprise Building

A total number of 36 new dwellings have been erected by private enterprise during the year. The majority of these have been of the bungalow type.

Slum Clearance

No new properties have yet been erected to replace houses scheduled for demolition, but land is being acquired in 3 of the larger Parishes with a view to erection in the near future of Council Houses for slum clearance purposes.

Houses built by the Council

In accordance with the Council's policy of limiting building for general re-housing to the number which was reached in 1955, no further houses were built or commenced during the year.

The opportunity was taken to purchase and adapt the School at Meledor for housing purposes. Tenancy was given to a family who had previously resided at the hutted camp on No. 9 site, St. Mawgan.

In addition the property at Wheal Bull, Foxhole, previously requisitioned, was also purchased. The previous tenant remained in possession.

The overall housing position is therefore :-

Pre-war houses	237 dwellings
Ennisworgey adaptation	1 "
Post war conversions	7 "
Post war constructions	514 "
	<hr/>
	759
	<hr/>

Improvement Grants

There have been 32 applications for Improvement Grants during the year. Thirty of these have been approved and two rejected due to the unsuitability of the scheme in both cases. The Council still pays a third of the lower of two tendered prices.

Housing of Old People

The number of people in the higher age groups is increasing and is likely to give rise to housing difficulties in the near future.

The total population of the area and of the relevant age groups is as follows (Census figures 1951) :-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Rural District (all ages)	10,299	10,514
" " 60 years and over	1,621	1,859
" " 65 years and over	1,122	1,320
" " 70 years and over	681	834

Information on housing arrangements is available only for those aged 60 years and over.

(a) Married persons living together (householders) 2,023.

Some of this group are living in substandard houses which will be dealt with in due course under Slum Clearance Schemes. Others are living in houses which are much too large for proper maintenance and means should be found to induce such persons to occupy smaller houses. The difficulty lies often in getting rid of possessions which may originally have been acquired only with difficulty.

(b) Single, Widowed or Divorced (householders) 879

There are 534 one person households with an average of four rooms each and about half of the single occupants are over the age of 65 years. In comparison with the general population the living standards in one person households fall well below in such amenities as piped water supplies, cooking stores and kitchen sinks.

(c) Non-Householders i.e. living with relative or as lodgers 578

Whilst many people wish to look after elderly relations, others find it a burden. In general it is desirable that the younger married people should be free to live their own lives without the presence of the old.

It would seem that a considerably higher proportion of those over 60 years of age than of the general population are living in sub optimum conditions.

A realistic approach should be made to the housing problems of the aged which takes account of increasing physical disability, limited means, loneliness, the desire to have some of their own possessions and as much independence as possible.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk and Dairies Regulations

The Council issue licences in respect of Non-Producer retailers of milk only and 24 Dealers Licences authorising the use of the special designation "Pasteurised" and 5 in respect of Tuberculin Tested have been issued.

Ice Cream

There has been no new registrations of premises for the sale of ice cream and the number remains at 88 registered premises. In all registered premises the sale of pre-packed ice cream only takes place and only reputable makes are sold.

Meat Inspection

There are 13 licenced slaughterhouses in the district. Of these 12 are private slaughterhouses used only by the individual butcher owners, the remaining one operates a wholesale export business. As this latter slaughterhouse is situate at one of the furthestmost boundaries of the district, a very satisfactory arrangement has been arrived at with an adjoining Local Authority to carry out all inspection duties there.

Post mortem examination is made of the carcasses of all animals slaughtered at private slaughterhouses in the district. As individual slaughtering often takes place during late afternoon or early evening, it means that a considerable amount of time has to be worked during the evenings and early mornings in order to ensure adequate inspection services.

Carcases and Offal inspection and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	1,098	30	Nil	1,478	2,367	-
Number inspected	1,098	30	Nil	1,478	2,367	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	-	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	175	10	-	1	2	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.1	33.3	-	.14	.1	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	39	2	-	-	46	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.7	6.7	-	-	1.9	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars of Condemnations

Tuberculosis

2 Carcase beef and offal complete
25 Ox lungs
9 Ox heads
3 Ox livers
2 Fore quarters beef
2 Briskets beef
44 Pigs heads

Other diseases

Cirrhosis & Necrosis	58 Ox livers
	127 part Ox livers
	1 Pigs liver
Cysticercosis Bovis	3 Ox carcasses
Bruising	11 lbs beef
Acute Arthritis	2 Fore Quarters Pork.

Other Foods and Premises

There has been little variation in number of the food premises in existence over the past few years.

In all there are 72 premises which sell food of varying sorts. They are practically all of the general village store types and many of them are attached to or form part of the dwellinghouse.

The shops are in a fairly satisfactory state of repair and every interest is taken by the shopkeepers to display their commodities in the most tasteful and hygienic manner. All food shops now have hot or cold water available to provide adequate washing facilities in connection with the running of the premises.

The 9 bakeries in the district are kept up to the satisfactory standard previously achieved.

The 19 butchers in the area are in practically all cases small family businesses with the shop attached to the dwellinghouse. Business is keenly competitive and an active interest is taken to display their meat to its best advantage under most hygienic conditions. Most of the shops have tiled walls and marble slab counters, hot and cold water is readily available and all have large refrigerators. Many of them have mobile vans, which have been specially built and fitted with stainless steel counter tops and formica lined doors to cupboards, the remainder of the vans are lined with enamel hardboard, to ensure satisfactory and adequate cleansing.

A total of 306 visits were made to the various food shops in the district.

There are no wholesale provision firms in the area, and normally the only food stuff condemned is that which is voluntarily surrendered by the local shopkeepers. As such a small quantity of food stuff is involved its disposal is by way of the Local Council Refuse Collection service.

Particulars of condemnations of tinned and other foodstuffs are as follows :-

Meat and fish	-	24 tins
Fruit	-	15 "
Evaporated Milk	-	6 "
Streaky Bacon	-	50 lbs.
Lard	-	56 lbs.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and control over infectious
and other diseases.

The following notifications of infectious diseases were received:-

Disease	1956 No. of Cases	St.Austell Rural		Rate per 1,000 Population
		1955	1956	England & Wales 1956.
Measles	152	2.24	7.02	3.58
Acute Pneumonia	6	0.23	0.28	0.57
Scarlet Fever	2	0.05	0.09	0.74
Whooping Cough	11	0.05	0.51	2.06
Meninsococcal Infection	1	0.00	0.05	0.02

The outbreak of measles reported in 1955 continued during the first half of the year and was reported mainly from the northern part of the area. The eleven cases of whooping cough notified are only a fraction of the true number of cases.

Sporadic cases of infectious jaundice and of glandular fever still occur.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Immunisation in relation to the Child Population

Number of children at 31st December, 1956 who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1942).

Age at 31.12.56 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1956.	1-4 1955-52	5-9 1951-47	10-14 1946 - 42	Under 15. Totals
(1) Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster)					
(a) 1951-1955	36	686	1,084	745	2,551
(b) ditto 1941-1950	-	-	277	593	870
(2) Estimated mid- year child population	250	1,273	3,179		4,702
(3) Immunity Index i.e. 100 $\frac{(1a)}{(2)}$	14.4	54.0	57.4		54.2

Combined Whooping Cough, tetanus and diphtheria immunisations or various combinations of these are offered for use at the recommended age of four months. The immunisation period extends over two months and it should be possible to have an immunity index of 50% by the age of one year.

Many mothers delay immunisations until the child is nearly one year old and this accounts for the low immunity index of children under 1 year.

The indicas for the other age groups fall well below the figure of 75% recommended by the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health as the safety level and one can only assume increasing apathy on the part of parents with the years of safety and absence of disease. Many present day parents have no recollection of the years when diphtheria was a killing disease and assume very wrongly that without precautions on their part diphtheria is a disease of the past.

During 1956 the following immunisations were reported :-

Primary 258
Booster 375

Smallpox Vaccination

103 primary vaccinations and 20 revaccinations were carried out during the year.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

During the year a vaccine was prepared and issued in small quantities in proportion to the number in the age group (2-9 years inclusive) who had registered their consent. The proportion of those for whom consents were received was rather less than one quarter of the possible.

It proved to be possible to give protection to only 56 children.

A country-wide analysis of the results for 1956 has shown that the chance of acquiring paralytic poliomyelitis in those vaccinated is reduced to about one fifth. The chance of acquiring the non-paralytic form is similar to that in the unvaccinated population.

Tuberculosis

The number of cases on the registered at 31st December, 1956 was as follows :-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	76	46	122
Non-Pulmonary	10	7	17
<hr/>			
TOTALS:	86	53	139
<hr/>			

The following table gives the age and sex distribution of new cases and deaths for the year 1956. Deaths include all notified cases who may have died from other causes:-

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>New Cases</u>						<u>Deaths</u>					
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 4	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -14	0	1	-	-	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -24	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -44	2	3	-	-	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -64	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 64	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1
TOTALS:	6	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1

In addition to the above, the following alterations were made to the Register :-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Fulmonary</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Transfers - in from other areas	3	6	0	0
" - out to " "	1	3	0	0
Recoveries	4	2	0	1

The above results in a net increase of nine pulmonary cases.

Preventive measures are taken to limit spread from active cases and to protect immediate contacts of cases by offering B.C.G. vaccination. In the Rural Area, 40 persons were vaccinated. A visit was paid by the Mass Radiography Unit to the Clay Area to complete the survey started last year and the following results were obtained :-

It proved to be impossible to separate those living in the rural district from those in the urban area but it is estimated that about one-third of those examined lived in the rural area.

(1) Number examined 1,211

(2) (i) Newly discovered significant cases of tuberculosis

(a) active 1
(b) requiring observation 2

(ii) Requiring no action 9

(iii) Previously known 4

(3) Other conditions

Bronchiectasis 1
Pneumoconiosis 5
Others 15

The scheme for the examination of the 13 year old school children was continued with the following results :-

Number examined 94
Percentage Mantoux positive 7.7%
Number vaccinated 83
Number X-rayed 44 - 1 Case Congenital Heart Disease noted (previously known).

Educative measures in those infected and in those in close contact are of major importance and so also is adequate housing to allow segregation of infective cases.

SECTION F.

Factories Act, 1937 & 1948
Annual Report - Part 1.

<u>Premises</u> (1)	<u>M/c line</u> <u>No.</u> (2)	<u>Number on</u> <u>Register</u> (3)	<u>Number of</u> <u>Inspections</u> (4)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	9	4
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	67	29
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)...	3	-	-
TOTAL:		76	33

Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H. M. Inspector (5)	By H. M. Inspector (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	2	2	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	9	1	1	Nil	Nil
(b) not separate for sexes	11	1	1	Nil	Nil
TOTAL		4	4	Nil	Nil

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Section 110	Section 111
		No. of Outworkers Section 110 (1)(c) (3)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (4)
Wearing apparel, Making, etc.	13	1	Nil
Household linen	15	1	Nil

